



MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

August 3rd, 2022

Washoe County Senior Center, Reno, Nevada 89512
Game Room
&
Zoom Webinar

<https://zoom.us/j/92347908306?pwd=K2k5UGdYSEVXVGNuRGFPZ3pub2kwQT09>

1. ***Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Chair- Hawah Ahmad.
2. ***Roll Call** – Hawah Ahmad asked for the roll call; Sandra Vasquez took the roll. There was a quorum present via in person and through Zoom meeting.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Martha Lavin
Mavis Kay Bonzer
Thuy Tran
Kodandaraman
Venkataraman(late)
Ethan Hovest

Linda Hardie
Jane Baudelaire
Pamela Roberts
Mary Ann McCauley
Hawah Ahmad

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

* Casey Reed

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Steve McBride
Abby Willrich
Ryan Crane
Brandon Roman

Herbert Kaplan (DA)
Sandra Vasquez

ADVISOR PRESENT

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ADVISOR (ABSENT)

Donna Clontz
Dr. Larry Weiss
Connie McMullen
Victoria Edmondson

3. ***Public Comment** –

Molly Rose Lewis, from Senator Jackie Rosen's office stated the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has put out a request for feedback. There is an online link for people to put their personal advantage, people can access at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/08/01/2022-16463/medicare-program-request-for-information-on-medicare>

Mark Neumann thanked Steve for the brochures that were made for Sun Valley, he also thanked Ryan and his staff for delivering fans to the Sun Valley senior center. Mark states that Sun Valley had an event, but it was not widely published and it would be good to have advertising for events.

4. *Member Announcements –

None.

5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on August 3, 2022 (For Possible Action)

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Pam Roberts and seconded by Thuy Tran. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on July 6, 2022 (For Possible Action)

Motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Pamela Roberts and seconded by Martha Lavin. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations on the American Rescue Plan Act (A.R.P.A.) funding process for Washoe County, including discussion and possible revisions and signature from the Chair of the WCHSASAB letter to Board of County Commissioners (For Possible Action)

Attachment: [8-3-22 WCSAB Letter to Commissioners Updated.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Hawah asked if there are any updates, Steve stated they may be able to get someone from the budget office that may be able to give a report in the future. Pam asked if there has been an update on the letter. Hawah stated the Sparks Senior Center asked for new chairs and funding was provided for it. Hawah revised the letter, Steve stated regarding housing, there is going to be a position to serve clients under Human Services to help with affordable housing. Hawah stated the state is putting money to help with affordable housing, but until then rents are going up. Pam stated maybe they need an ombudsman for seniors. Steve stated it's ok to ask for positions, but they need to see that it may be a limit to the time the position is available, it would help if it was to help with a crisis that was going on. Hawah stated it's good that capital improvements will be made, but things in the letter haven't happened yet; it would be good to make the letter to be more of a short term oriented letter. Pam stated it would be good to reach out to members of the community for things such as a company that would provide home improvements for seniors or legal services for seniors. Thuy stated there is an organization that does nonprofit work in the community and there is also an organization that deals with landlords and property managers. Regarding homemaker services, two case workers have been added and the hope is that the list will go down by 100; there is also work going on with Daybreak staff. Hawah stated they should ask for 500 slots for homemaker services since it's growing so much. Also, regarding computer usage, Sun Valley does not have computers anymore. Hawah asked about Meals On Wheels, Abby stated there are no issues with funding for home delivered meals. Abby stated the Sparks Senior Center will be getting new flooring and they are looking at getting new chairs as well, most likely almost all of September, the center will be closed. Steve stated that at the Reno Center, they will be remodeling the kitchen and restrooms, but no estimated time for when that will happen.

Candy Green stated she represents clients running for election and she would like an explanation about meals on wheels, homemaker program, and what will happen to the seniors when the remodel is going on.

Mark Neumann stated seniors would like to use computers, but no one will teach them how to use them.

Carmen Ortiz stated she is from the Sun Valley CAB board and the County has cancelled their meetings. She wants their meeting to be equitable.

8. *Report and discussion on services provided by WCHSA Senior Services Division – Steve McBride, Division Director

Steve stated 814 fans have been donated and 802 have been given out. Every year there is more interest from the public and collaboration by KOLO. Also, there will be improvements for the Sparks Center. There is also a new site coming at the North Valleys. Regarding the remodel for Reno, it is unknown as to what the plan will be.

Candy Green stated the Washoe County senior population has grown and asked what difference have over 800 fans made.

Andrea Pelto thanked Steve for their work on the remodel of the Sparks center.

9. *Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Donald Abbott

Donald states their next meeting is August 24th at Sparks City Hall. Also, Andrea Pelto has been nominated for Senior Citizen of the Year. Marsy Kupfersmith has been talking with landlords about rent stabilization. Also, they have submitted their request for the survey on livable communities.

10. *Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Paco Lachoy

Paco not present.

11. *Report and update on letter to Citizen Advisory Boards (CABs) asking for reports on Senior Issues in unincorporated Washoe County

Pam stated this letter was to get more information from the communities, the letter may not have gone out yet. Pam stated the public statement from Carmen Ortiz presents a concern for their CAB meetings. Pam states CAB meeting should be as accessible as possible. Carmen from the public states they wanted to cancel the meetings and wanted to make them via Zoom; she doesn't believe it's fair to not provide the resources if they only want to have the meetings via Zoom. Pam is willing to follow up with the County Manager on behalf of the of the Senior Board. Mark Neumann states that Sun Valley is getting all of the brochures month and he thanked them for providing the resources. Pam asked if there was an issue in having CABs make reports in their meetings. Carmen stated she hasn't received a letter, but is willing to report.

12. *Discussion and update regarding Strategic Planning and updating the website, which includes the following:

a) Rules and Bylaws and proposed amendments from Board members

Attachment: [8-3-22 WCSAB Bylaws rev 3-2021.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

b) Washoe County Senior Services 2014 Master Plan, current State Plan for Aging and review of what is in the plan and when to expect an update

Attachment: [8-3-22 MastPlanGoalsObjectives.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[State plan for Aging \(nv.gov\)](#)

Pam stated there hasn't been changes since March of 2021. Ethan stated the Bylaws are sufficient to the purpose. Hawah asked Andrea Pelto about their surveys and Andrea stated they submitted their information, and they are supposed to talk about the survey request. Ethan stated that after getting survey results, they can work on a new master plan. Abby states the older Master Plan may have been worked on from Sanford Center. Pam stated they definitely need to update the Master Plan. Andrea Pelto stated that AARP usually asks the same set of questions in their surveys. Pam stated it would be good to see the survey that Sparks has if the Board needs to look at specifics.

VK is present at 4:25pm.

Hawah stated they have to be cognizant regarding the survey.

Mark Neumann states Commissioner Hermann is an ideal person to reach to about unincorporated Washoe County.

13. *Update and discussion regarding Senior Advisory Board's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis created on July 6th's Senior Advisory Board meeting and future steps to address threats and weaknesses

Attachment: [8-3-22 WCSAB Strategic Plan v1 SWOT.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

MaryAnn McCauley states that if they have surveys pending, they should put this item on hold. Meanwhile she recommends looking at the priorities they need to deal with. Pam stated she agrees with MaryAnn. They can work right away with CABs and the Board members. Pam stated she looked at the Elders Count report and it relates to many different areas and also started reading the Nevada State Plan. MaryAnn stated this just found out about the Bylaws and they need to back up and orient the Board. Hawah asked Herb, D.A., for a review of the Bylaws and an orientation. Hawah will contact Barry Gold and contact Larry Weiss for the Elders Count. Linda Hardie stated they should review the Bylaws, but not necessarily change them.

Mark Neumann stated that the Citizen Advisory Board is having a class.

14. *Discussion regarding Senior Advisory Board priorities, marketing, A.A.R.P., filling in information gaps, Board member's monthly activity with seniors, and providing support for community resource guides

Hawah will contact Barry Gold and contact Larry Weiss for the Elders Count. Linda Hardie stated they should review the Bylaws, but not necessarily change them.

Mark Neumann stated that the Citizen Advisory Board is having a class.

15. Discussion and possible appointment from the Board of a Senior Advisory Board Secretary (For Possible Action)

Hawah stated the secretary would essentially be the person to edit their letters.

Motion to nominate herself, Jane Baudelaire, was made by Jane Baudelaire and seconded by Pamela Roberts. Motion passed unanimously.

16. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding appointing a new Advisory Board member for District 4 and an Alternate (For Possible Action)

a) Application for Alternate seat from Charles Mark Neumann (District 3)

Attachment: [8-3-22 Charles Mark Neumann RDTD Application.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Mark Neumann stated he attends all the meetings and he tries to look after the citizens of Sun Valley and Washoe County. Pam stated the roll of an Alternate member is that they serve like a voting member if a voting member is absent, per the Bylaws.

Motion to recommend Mark Neumann was made by MaryAnn McCauley and seconded by Thuy Tran. Motion passed unanimously.

17. *Advisory Board Members' announcements, reports and updates to include requests for information or topics for future agendas. (No discussion among Advisory Board Members will take place on this item.)

Washoe Legal Services

Budget Office for ARPA Funding

Restoring Nevada

Renovation dates from Steve

Pam requested discussion at holding a future meeting at a different location

Report on Meals On Wheels

18. *Public comment –

Mark Neumann stated he was asked at Sun Valley what it would take to get an air purifier to circulate the air. Also, maybe the school nutrition program may help with the food when the closure happens. Also, apartments pay 8% tax, they should look at a discount for them helping with affordable housing.

Michael Clark, Washoe County Assessor, asked about Meals On Wheels and what it entails.

Hawah stated VK put on the Zoom chat that NV Energy is raising their rates by 8%.

Andrea Pelto stated she talked with Governor Sisolak and she was told seniors never complaint.

Also, she would like everyone to remember Senior Fest will be September 6th from 9am-2pm at Reno Town Mall by Atlantis Casino and Convention Center. Steve stated there will be a media release for Senior Fest.

19. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm.

DRAFT